

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE, TO  
LET, EXCHANGE OR WANTED  
Situations, Help Wanted and Other  
Wants, See Section Seven

# Richmond Times-Dispatch

TO-DAY'S SHORT STORY BY  
KATE LANGLEY BOSHER  
See Society Section for No. Twelve of  
T.-D. Series by Home Authors

65th YEAR

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WEATHER  
PAGE 14 —FAIR

PRICE, FIVE CENTS

## Depression of Tracks Urged by Expert of The Times-Dispatch

William J. Wilgus Files  
Report Indicating Solu-  
tion of Belt Line  
Problem.

### REDUCES CLEARANCE

Sixteen-Foot Overhead Space Elim-  
inates Objectionably High  
Street Grade.

Depression of the Belt Line tracks to  
a depth approximating that suggested  
in the so-called Myers plan, coupled  
with a reduction of the track clearance  
and the adjustment of the track  
gradients so as to restrict the degree  
of rise necessary to carry the inter-  
secting streets over the railway line,  
is recommended as the best solution  
of the West End problem by William J.  
Wilgus, former chief engineer and vice-  
president of the New York Central,  
who was employed by The Times-  
Dispatch to make a critical study of  
the local situation.

Mr. Wilgus conducted an independent  
investigation, devoting the better part  
of two weeks to a study of the several  
plans for the adjustment of the Belt  
line situation suggested by the engi-  
neers of the city and the Richmond,  
Fredericksburg and Potomac Railroad  
Company, and to a personal inspection  
of the railroad right of way and ad-  
jacent properties.

### FINDS HANKINS AND HASTINGS PLANS OPEN TO CRITICISM

In a report embodying his criticisms  
of the several suggested plans and his  
own view as to the best manner of  
procedure, filed with The Times-  
Dispatch yesterday, Mr. Wilgus reaches  
the conclusion that the Hankins plan,  
providing for a deep depression of the  
Belt Line, is unnecessarily drastic and  
otherwise objectionable, and that the  
elevated-track plan proposed by Engi-  
neer Hastings, of the railroad company,  
is likewise open to serious criticism.  
With suggestions of his own, de-  
signed to remove or modify the most  
serious difficulties incident to the ex-  
ecution of this scheme, Mr. Wilgus gives  
his endorsement to the modified Myers  
plan, as proposed by the city engineer.  
The depression would involve the rais-  
ing of the intersecting streets about  
twelve feet, in order that the clearance  
between the top of the rails and the  
underside of the street bridges may be  
fixed at twenty-one feet.

On this point Mr. Wilgus comes for-  
ward with a suggestion which, if  
adopted, would remove one of the  
major disabilities of the Myers  
plan. A clearance of twenty-one feet,  
he advises, as applied to the Belt Line,  
is excessive. The absence of extensive  
switching and the universal use of the  
air brake, he points out, render the  
presence of men on top of cars  
traversing the Belt Line unnecessary,  
and a lower clearance—sixteen feet—is  
suggested—would answer all practical  
purposes.

### SMALLER CLEARANCE IS ADEQUATE FOR TRAFFIC

"That this smaller clearance is ample  
for the passage of equipment is evi-  
denced by the regulation loadings of  
the railroads of the United States,  
which usually range from thirteen to  
fourteen feet," reports Mr. Wilgus.  
"As to the protection of employees, the  
prohibition of their presence on the  
tops of cars within this zone, except  
under certain conditions, would remove  
all cause of danger."

"The reduction in clear height from  
twenty-one to sixteen feet, the thinning  
of the bridge floors to two feet instead  
of three, as now proposed, and the fur-  
ther lowering of the tracks a foot or  
two, coupled with the deepening of the  
drainage courses on the north, would  
effect a lessening in the street raisings  
of seven or eight feet, thus making the  
lift at Monument Avenue four or five  
feet, instead of twelve feet, as planned."

Mr. Wilgus suggests the adoption of  
arch in the place of the trestle type of  
bridge suggested in the several plans  
that have been advanced, as better de-  
signed to harmonize with the parklike  
development of the West End. While  
the cost of the arch structure would be  
somewhat greater than that of the  
utilitarian trestle bridge, the advan-  
tages, from an esthetic point of view,  
he believes, would more than justify it.

### USE MATERIAL TO RAISE ADJOINING LOTS

By utilizing the material from the  
railroad excavation, it would be pos-  
sible, Mr. Wilgus thinks, with the con-  
sent of the adjacent land owners, to  
lift the entire adjoining surface for  
the full height at the right-of-way  
lines, and to slope off for 150 to 200  
feet each way in such manner as to  
create a natural undulation or rise in  
the country.

"That a moderate swell in the sur-  
face might be a distinct attraction and  
serve to break the monotony of a flat  
expanse," says the engineer, "may be  
seen by noting the happy effect that  
has been obtained on Monument Avenue  
by placing the statues of Lee and Davis  
on slight eminences, where their  
silhouettes against the sky and the  
mystery of what lies beyond greatly  
enhance the beauty of the avenue."

"It should be noted that the sodding  
of the sides of the railroad cut, the  
under-draining and paving of the  
ditches and the cultivation of vines to  
clothe the bridges will go far to make  
the entire improvement a pleasing one."

### WILL GO BEFORE STREET COMMITTEE TO-MORROW NIGHT

Mr. Wilgus's report, accompanied by  
drawings showing the manner of  
bridging the railroad cut and studies  
of bridge construction, will be pre-  
sented to the street committee to-  
morrow night.

### Summary of Wilgus Plan

It appears to me that the common  
interests of both the city and the  
railroad may be best served by the  
adoption of the less radical of the  
two depression plans, coupled with  
a reduction of the track clearance, a  
thinning of the bridge floors and the  
adjustment of the track gradients,  
so as to restrict the raising of the  
principal streets to, say, six or  
seven feet.

The following of this course,  
blended by careful attention to  
landscape effects and bridge design,  
should, in my opinion, result in a  
noteworthy addition to the attrac-  
tion of Richmond.

## VILLA QUITS STRUGGLE AND WILL LEAVE MEXICO

His Followers, Warned to "Take  
Care of Themselves," Scatter-  
ing in All Directions.

### PLANS NOT ENTIRELY CLEAR

Said to Have Declared He Would  
Come to United States if Per-  
mitted, and if Not Allowed to  
Enter, Will Go to Europe.

EL PASO, TEX., December 18.—Gen-  
eral Francisco Villa has given up his  
struggle against the de facto govern-  
ment of Mexico, according to authori-  
tative advices today from Chihuahua.

The followers who remained faithful  
to the man once all powerful in North  
Mexico have been warned to "take care  
of themselves," and are said to be scatter-  
ing in all directions. Many, it is  
said, are preparing to make their peace  
with the Carranza government.

Villa, in addressing the council of  
war, at which his determination to  
abandon the struggle was made public,  
is said to have declared he would no  
longer sacrifice men needlessly. He  
is said to have been urged to abandon  
the revolution army movement by his  
staff and advisers, and also by his  
wife.

Just what the plans of the insurgent  
leader have not been made clear,  
although he is said to have declared  
he would come to the United States if  
he were permitted, and if not permitted  
would go to Europe.

The Carranza forces under General  
Jacinto Treviño already are demanding  
the surrender of Chihuahua, but few  
persons familiar with the country ques-  
tion General Villa's ability to escape  
capture in that state where he knows  
every hill and water hole, and where  
he has many friends. In fact, it is but  
five years ago that he roamed that  
same territory as a bandit with a price  
placed on his head by General Porfirio  
Diaz. His real name is Doroteo Granga,  
and he was born in Las Nieves, Dur-  
ango, in 1868. His parents were of the  
peon class, and on the death of his  
father he became a cowboy in Western  
Chihuahua. His personality and traits  
of leadership even then were apparent,  
for he soon attracted a number of  
desperate men to him, changed his  
name to Francisco Villa and lived as a  
bandit, subsisting by raiding and pil-  
laging the ranches of the big Chihuahua  
landowners.

### MANY STORIES AS TO REASON WHY VILLA BECAME BANDIT

Many stories are told as to the rea-  
son why Villa became a bandit, the  
most widely circulated being to the  
effect that he was outlawed for the  
killing of an army officer who had  
wronged his sister.

When Francisco Madero took the  
field against Diaz, Villa voluntarily  
cast his lot with the Madero faction,  
and performed such valiant service  
that Madero was forced to recognize  
him as the head of a well-equipped  
force. Diaz, however, was sent north to  
put down the Orozco rebellion. He and  
Villa clashed, and Villa was taken to  
Mexico City under arrest for insubordi-  
nation. While in prison there he  
taught himself to read and write. Ma-  
dero saved him from immediate execu-  
tion, and later he made his escape to  
the United States.

After his flight from Mexico Villa  
rose against Huerta, made his way  
across the Rio Grande into Mexico,  
with two companions, six "borrowed"  
horses, \$7 in money and a small sup-  
ply of food and baggage. Inside a year  
he was the head of a well-equipped  
army of 20,000 men, with a vast store  
of several million dollars, accumulated  
from the seizure of rich estates. This  
force was armed and equipped with  
the latest weapons from the Federal  
army. Villa's methods of strategy,  
based largely on the guerrilla warfare  
of his bandit days, brought him suc-  
cess in the battle of Agua Prieta.

### ANIMOSITY WITH CARRANZA ARISES EARLY IN 1914

Animosity arose early in 1914 be-  
tween General Carranza and Villa. The  
final break came at the time of the  
Agua Calientes convention, called to  
outline the policies of the Constitution-  
alist party. Carranza declined to re-  
cognize the action of the convention,  
Villa and Zapata joined forces and  
took possession of Mexico City for a  
time, forcing Carranza to withdraw to  
Veracruz. Up to that time, General  
Villa never had suffered a defeat, but  
shortly afterward he was opposed by  
the other military generals of Mexico.

(Continued on Fourteenth Page.)

### PULLMAN BUFFET PARLOR CAR Between Richmond and Danville

A SOUTHERN RAILWAY DAY, com-  
mencing Monday, Dec. 20, 1915, Rich-  
mond, Va., at 7:30 A. M.; Danville 4:15 P. M.; Return-  
ing, Danville 3:10 P. M.; Richmond  
8:30 P. M.

## DENIES ALL BLAME IN ANCONA SINKING

Austria Says Views of United  
States, Even if Correct, Fail  
to Fix Responsibility.

### FULL TEXT IS GIVEN OUT

Vienna Reserves to Itself "Full  
Freedom of Maintaining Its  
Own Legal View."

WASHINGTON, December 18.—The  
official text of Austria's reply to the  
American note on the Ancona, made  
public here today, reveals that the  
Vienna government denies that the  
views presented by the United States,  
even if correct, warrant the blame for  
the disaster being placed upon the com-  
mander of the submarine.

The reply denies also that blame  
can be placed upon the Austro-Hun-  
garian government, even if "a most  
rigorous legal construction were ap-  
plied to the judgment of the case."  
The note also states that the Austro-  
Hungarian government is unable to de-  
termine what the United States in-  
tended to indicate when it mentioned  
the attitude which Germany had as-  
sumed toward submarine warfare. It  
adds that if the United States intended  
"to express an opinion to the effect  
that a prejudice of whatever nature  
existed" with respect to "juridical  
consideration" of the affair, the Vienna  
government declares that it reserves  
to itself "full freedom of maintaining  
its own legal view."

### TEXT NEARLY IDENTICAL WITH UNOFFICIAL VERSION

Except for slight variation in trans-  
lation, the remainder of the official  
text virtually is identical with the un-  
official version cabled from London.

It was agreed, seemingly, in official  
quarters that the official text did not  
minimize a realization of the gravity  
of the situation which was impressed  
on officials by the unofficial cables, but  
it also was apparent that the door to  
further negotiation was not closed.

While the State Department was  
making the note public, President Wil-  
son was at work in his study on the  
outline of a reply, which will go for-  
ward some time next week.

The State Department also made  
public an official text of the Austrian  
reply, which, it was pointed out, pre-  
sented the statement, previously pub-  
lished, which admitted that the subma-  
rine fired on the Ancona after the ship  
had come to a stop and while passen-  
gers still were aboard.

### FULL TEXT OF REPLY TO AMERICAN NOTE

The full text of Austria's reply to  
the American note on the sinking of  
the Ancona, as made public today by  
the State Department, follows:

"American Embassy, Vienna,  
December 15, 1915.

"Secretary of State, Washington:

"Following note received from Min-  
istry for Foreign Affairs noon to-day:

"In reply to the much-esteemed note,  
No. 4167, which His Excellency, Mr.  
Frederic Courtland Penfield, ambas-  
sador extraordinary and plenipotentiary  
of the United States of America, di-  
rected to him in the name of the  
American government, under date of  
the 9th instant, in the matter of the  
sinking of the Italian steamer Ancona,

the undersigned, preliminary to a  
thorough meritorious treatment of the  
demand, has the honor to observe that  
the sharpness with which the govern-  
ment of the United States considers it  
necessary to blame the commanding  
officer of the submarine concerned in  
the affair and the firmness in which  
the demands addressed to the imperial  
and royal government appear to be  
expressed might well have warranted  
the expectation that the government of  
the United States should precisely  
specify the actual circumstances of the  
affair upon which it bases its case.

### PRESENTATION OF FACTS LEAVES ROOM FOR MANY DOUBTS

"As is not difficult to perceive, the  
presentation of the facts in the case  
in the aforesaid note leaves room for  
many doubts, and even if this pre-  
sentation were correct in all points  
and the most rigorous legal conception  
were applied to the judgment of the  
case, it does not in any way sufficiently  
warrant attaching blame to the com-  
manding officer of the war vessel or to  
the imperial and royal government."

"The government of the United States  
has also failed to designate the per-  
sons upon whose testimony it relies,  
and to attribute a higher degree of cre-  
dibility than to the commander of the  
imperial and royal fleet. The note also  
fails to give any information whatsoever  
as to the number, names and more  
precise fate of the American citizens  
who were on board of the said steamer  
at the critical moment."

"However, in view of the fact that  
the Washington Cabinet has now made  
a positive statement to the effect that  
citizens of the United States of Amer-  
ica came to grief in the incident in  
question, the imperial and royal govern-  
ment is in a position ready to enter  
into an exchange of views in the af-  
fair with the government of the United  
States."

"It must, however, in the first place,  
raise the question why that govern-  
ment failed to give juridical reasons for  
the demands set forth in its note  
reference to the special circum-  
stances of the incriminating events  
upon which it itself lays stress, and  
why in lieu thereof it referred to an  
exchange of correspondence which it  
has conducted with another govern-  
ment in other cases."

### NOT ABLE TO FOLLOW WASHINGTON CABINET

"The imperial and royal government  
is the less able to follow the Washing-  
ton Cabinet on this unusual path,  
since it by no means possesses au-  
thority to attribute a higher degree of  
credibility to the statements of the  
United States, nor is it of the opinion  
that such knowledge might be  
sufficient for it in the present case,  
which, in so far as it is informed, is  
not able to follow."

"While firm in tone, the communica-  
tion, it is believed, will not be quite as  
vigorous as the first note. The United  
States was reported by officials as de-  
siring of continuing its present rela-  
tions with Austria-Hungary should it  
be possible to do so.

"The note will, it was said, virtually  
state that the principal complaint of  
the United States is based upon the  
admissions contained in the admiralty  
statement which admitted that the An-  
cona was torpedoed by the submarine,  
while persons were still aboard."

All the demands made in the first  
note will be reiterated, and it is be-  
lieved no room will be left for further  
arguments or negotiations. The note  
will not, it was authoritatively stated,  
fix a time limit within which Austria-  
Hungary must comply with the Ameri-  
can demands, but will make it clear  
that the final word of this government  
has been spoken, and that Austria-  
Hungary must decide promptly by its  
actions whether diplomatic relations  
between the two countries shall be  
severed."

"After giving some of the facts Aus-  
tro-Hungary desires, particular atten-  
tion is called to the statement issued  
by the Austro-Hungarian admiralty.  
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## MRS. NORMAN GALT IS BRIDE OF PRESIDENT WOODROW WILSON

Nation's Chief Executive and New First Lady of Land



PRESIDENT WILSON.



MRS. WOODROW WILSON.

## NEW NOTE TO AUSTRIA MAY GO FORWARD TO-DAY

Reiterates American Demands Re-  
garding Sinking of Italian  
Steamship Ancona.

### WILSON COMPLETES DRAFT

Document Then Delivered to Lansing  
for Shaping Into Final Form.  
Vienna Reported as Being Anxious  
to Avoid Break.

WASHINGTON, December 18.—Presi-  
dent Wilson late today completed the  
first draft of the new note to Austria-  
Hungary, reiterating the American de-  
mands regarding the sinking of the  
Italian steamship Ancona. The docu-  
ment was delivered to Secretary Lan-  
sing at his home to-night. It probably  
will be cabled to-morrow night or Mon-  
day to Ambassador Penfield for pre-  
sentation to the Vienna Foreign Office  
after the secretary has developed the  
plans of the President.

The first draft was completed after  
Secretary Lansing had sent the Presi-  
dent a memorandum containing all of  
the State Department's information on  
the disaster, and after Baron Zwi-  
edinek, charge of the Austro-Hungarian  
embassy here, had conferred at some  
length with the secretary.

It was authoritatively stated to-  
night that the charge strongly intimat-  
ed to Mr. Lansing that, should the second  
note be couched in less vigorous terms,  
and leave the Vienna Foreign Office  
such an opportunity, the reply might  
be wholly satisfactory to the United  
States.

### SATISFACTORY REPLY MUST CONTAIN DISAVOWAL

A satisfactory reply would have to  
contain a disavowal, assurances of  
reparation by payment of indemnity for  
the Americans killed and injured, and  
some acceptable statement concerning  
punishment to the commander of the  
submarine which sank the vessel.

While the State Department was  
making the note public, President Wil-  
son was at work in his study on the  
outline of the reply.

The reply will convey to Austria-  
Hungary all the information desired  
according to the opinion expressed to-  
night by officials. They, however, de-  
clared that it would not enter into  
any extended discussion of details.  
The document was represented as be-  
ing long.

### COMPLAINT BASED UPON ADMIRALTY ADMISSIONS

"After giving some of the facts Aus-  
tro-Hungary desires, particular atten-  
tion is called to the statement issued  
by the Austro-Hungarian admiralty.  
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statement which admitted that the An-  
cona was torpedoed by the submarine,  
while persons were still aboard."

## GERMANY DISAPPROVES ACTS OF LAWLESSNESS

Government Sends Authorized State-  
ment to People of United  
States.

### NOT TO BLAME FOR MISDEEDS

Means of Communication Between  
Two Countries Unsatisfactory, and  
This Is Partially Responsible for  
Lack of Understanding.

NEW YORK, December 18.—The New  
York Times has received the following  
authorized statement by wireless from  
Berlin:

"The German government naturally  
has never knowingly accepted the sup-  
port of any person, group of persons,  
society or organization seeking to pro-  
mote the cause of Germany in the  
United States by illegal acts, by coun-  
sels of violence, by contravention of  
law, or by any means whatever that  
could offend the American people in  
the pride of their own authority."

"If it should be alleged that im-  
proper acts have been committed by  
representatives of the German govern-  
ment, they could be easily dealt with.  
To any complaints upon proof as may  
be submitted by the American govern-  
ment suitable response will be duly  
made."

"As is well known, the means of com-  
munication between Germany and the  
United States are very unsatisfactory.  
It is practically impossible for the Ger-  
man government to keep itself in touch  
with American sentiment; it has often  
to depend upon the foreign press for  
information concerning American af-  
fairs."

"The message of President Wilson  
to Congress, in which the activities of  
German sympathizers in the United  
States were discussed, will serve as an  
illustration. There was received in  
Germany a brief summary of those pas-  
sages which referred to plots and con-  
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